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Telford Telescope: Our next fateful fight for freedom

By Dr. John Telford SÚN COLUMNIST

'Beware the Billionaires' - To save our nation now we must All understand--it's up to US!



In that poetic couplet, I repeat what President Joe Biden warned Americans in his farewell address regarding what all of us must now do--beware the billionaires, and indeed

BATT:LE the billionaires.

Very early in Donald Trump's first presidency, an early-departing member of his Cabinet correctly called the idiotic Trump a "moron" -- but the re-elected Trump has resultantly become an exceedingly DANGEROUS moron.

Seven decades ago in a speech at Morehouse College at the outset of the mid-20th century civil rights movement, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. presciently said, "If you can't run, walk; if you can't walk, crawl--but keep moving in the fateful fight for our freedom.

While wearing my U.S. Team shirt with the iconic red, white and blue shield emblem, I never lost at 200 meters nor at the challengingly killer 400 meters (see me wearing it racing in 1960 against Ernie Billups of Loyola and Jamaica's world 400-meter record-holder George Rhoden). At 89 and hobbling around on a walker, I can't run anymore, but when I was racing representing America in Europe wearing that shirt, I knew I was running for a country and a cause far greater than myself--a cause and country for which I was and have remained ready to die.

Now in 2025, our cause and our country are in a clear and present danger as potentially dire as any danger that America faced in World War II--and now ironically, with the collusion of a Congress dominated by a slim majority of mendacious, hypocritical, craven ReTRUM-Plicans, the greatest danger comes at us from within our own borders with four years (and possibly beyond four years) of a treasonously Supreme-Court-immunized convicted felon back in the White House.

The fascist Trump has degraded our democratic mantra down from the his-

toric worldwide democratic rallying cry 'Liberty, Equality, Fraternity!' and replaced it with the Trumpish mantra 'Idiocy, Hypocrisy, Mendacity!' Were Dr. King alive today, he would battle relentlessly against this oligarchic president and his billionaire masters, as now all patriotic Americans must also do if our precious and historic democratic republic is to sur-



Telford breaks the tape ahead of Loyola University's Ernie Billups and former Olympic 400-meter hampion George Rhoden, of Jamaica, in a 1960 race at Yost Fieldhouse in Ann Arbor, While

Former NCAA and NAAU All-American sprinter and former DPS superintendent JohnTelford is now the DPSCD's Poet-in-Residence. Get 'Athletes, Activism, & Apple Boughs - A Detroit Poetic Epic' and his other books at amazon.com, read his Poet's Corner columns in the Detroit Monitor, and hear him on WCHB AM1340 Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. and Mondays at 6:30 p.m.--plus all week 24/7 on DETipTV.com. Contact him at

DrJohnTelfordEdD@aol.com and at (313)

460-8272.

While Trump Bans DEI, He's Hosting Black History Month?!

By April Ryan

SPECIAL TO THE SUN

It is official, the Trump Administration is hosting its White House Black History Month Celebration this Wednesday. This gathering of Black officials and others happens in the midst of the Trump administration's anti-DEI and anti-woke

During this administration's first White House Press Briefing, January 28, White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt affirmed "we will continue to celebrate American history and the contributions that all Americans, regardless of race, religion or creed have made to our great country. America is back!"

Republican Armstrong Williams says he is "optimistic" about the Wednesday White House celebration that he is not expected to attend.

While in New Orleans for Super Bowl activities, Williams told Black Press USA that, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, "strengthening families, and strengthening business" for wealth creation will see a "renaissance.'

Currently, the majority of HBCU presidents are concerned with the potential impact of new Trump administration Executive Orders against DEI and the threat of federal funds being revoked from their Black colleges.

Williams, a media mogul, is aware of the anti woke and anti DEI Trump administration efforts. However he counters saying, "people will absolutely be shocked. He [Trump] will build his legacy and that will be a part of it. This is something he is really committed to."

On social media when this reporter posted a portion of the White House invite, IG White House Black History Month Celebration reaction was swift. Black Press USA obtained a copy of the invitation for purposes of this story only.

One respondent, @papimagic said, "So no federal office or agency is [no] longer allowed to celebrate Black History Month... or any other identity centered celebration... but y'all throwing a BHM dinner.... Girl make it make sense. The maths not mathing."

On the social media platform X a respondent said, White House Black History Month reaction, "so the White House can hold their Black History Month celebration, but not the employees of federal agencies, DOD, DODEA, schools with teachers and librarians who had to take down and remove all decorations, books, and lesson plans on black history? SMDH hypocrites."

At press time Black Press USA was still waiting for the list of the attendees for the Wednesday early afternoon event at the White House.

Target hit with Class Action Lawsuit over DEI policies



Target shareholders are seeking damages covering the period from August 26, 2022, to November 19, 2024, as they navigate declining customer traffic and stock performance.

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(313)457-5944 ~ www.detroitnativesunonline.com Email: editor@detroitnativesunonline.com Sales@detroitnativesunonline.com Detroitnativesunnews@gmail.com

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By Stacy M. Brown NNPA Senior National Correspondent

Target Corporation, along with CEO Brian Cornell and its current and former board members, is facing a class action lawsuit alleging that the company misled investors about the financial risks associated with its diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives. The lawsuit, filed by the City of Riviera Beach Police Pension Fund in Florida, claims that Target issued "false and misleading" statements regarding its DEI, environmental, and social poli-

According to Reuters, shareholders argue that the company defrauded them into paying inflated stock prices while leadership allegedly "misused investor funds to serve political and social goals." The lawsuit also references Target's controversial 2023 LGBT Pride Campaign, which ignited backlash when the retailer introduced Pride-themed merchandise, only to later pull select items after in-store confrontations raised safety concerns. The move drew criticism from both opponents of the campaign and LGBTQ+ advocates who viewed the reversal as a betrayal.

Despite the controversy, Target defended its DEI commitments. "We remain focused on driving our business by creating a sense of belonging for our team, guests and communities through a commitment to inclusion." the company said in a statement, according to CNN. "Belonging for all is an essential part of our team and culture, helping fuel consumer relevance and business results."

Shareholders argue that Target was not forthcoming about the scrutiny it faced over its Pride Month campaign in May 2023, which ultimately led to the removal of merchandise tied to the initiative. By November 2024, Target's shares had plummeted by 22%, resulting in a staggering \$15.7 billion loss in market value. Investors assert that the retailer's financial downturn stood "in stark contrast" to its competitors and was exacerbated by its DEI-related policies.

Shareholders are seeking damages covering the period from August 26, 2022, to November 19, 2024, as Target navigates declining customer traffic and stock performance. The lawsuit comes as major corporations, including Walmart, Ford Motor Corp., and Meta, have rolled back DEI initiatives following Donald Trump's directive to eliminate such programs.